

Hawkesbury Historical Society Newsletter

Newsletter of the Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc.

HAWKESBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Address: The Secretary PO Box 293, Windsor NSW 2756

T: 02 4578 2443 E: secretaryhawkesburyhistory@gmail.com

Website: www.hawkesburyhistoricalsociety.org

Aim: Hawkesbury Historical Society aims to encourage & preserve the history of the Hawkesbury

Meetings: 4th Thursday, alternate months, 7.30pm-10pm
Hugh Williams Room at the Museum in Baker Street, Windsor

Open to: People interested in the preservation of the history of the Hawkesbury, new members welcome.

Patron: Ted Books

Office Bearers 2019/2020:

President: Jan Barkley-Jack

Snr Vice President: Ted Brill

Jnr Vice President: Dick Gillard

Secretary and Public Officer: Neville Dehn

Treasurer: Heather Gillard

Social Co-ordinator: [Vacant]

Publicity Officer: [Vacant]

Hon Curator HHS Collection: Carol Carruthers/ Rebecca Turnbull

Newsletter Editor: Jan Readford

Web Administrator: Dick Gillard

Bookshop Manager: Heather Gillard

Facebook Administrator: Peta Sharpley

Committee members: Sean Flavin, Ellen Jordan, Peta Sharpley

HHS Collection Committee: Carol Carruthers, Hawkesbury Regional Museum Manager and Curator – Rebecca Turnbull

Publications Committee: Jan Barkley-Jack, Jan Readford and Ellen Jordan

MEETINGS

Thursday, 22nd October 7.30 pm (AGM)

[Join the meeting by telephone or Zoom]

CONTENTS

- ♦ Annual General Meeting. Speaker: Oonagh Sherrard1
- ♦ 'From Distress to Deliverance' – An Author's Journey.....2
- ♦ Brickies, brickpits and brick making on the central ridge of Mulgrave Place, c.1796-1890s.....4
- ♦ The Good Wives of the Hawkesbury Royalty7
- ♦ Tinkling the ivories.....9
- ♦ Reminiscences...a nostalgic window into the past..... 11
- ♦ Quiz 4: Do you know where these bridges and river crossings were to be found in Hawkesbury?15
- ♦ Book Store Update19

Hawkesbury Historical Society Annual General Meeting

Thursday, 22nd October 2020
at 7.30pm

All members will be able to participate in the Annual General Meeting through a telephone hook-up or Zoom. Instructions will be provided to all members.

The AGM includes the election of Office Bearers for the next 12 months. Nomination forms for positions will be sent to members and nominations are to be provided to the Secretary during or before the meeting.

Immediately following the AGM will be the October General Meeting via the same process.

AGM Speaker: Oonagh Sherrard, Composer/Producer

Topic: "11 Stories From the River"

Oonagh is a composer and producer working across theatre, radio, performance, installations and public art projects. As composer and sound designer she has been commissioned by the Sydney Theatre Co and ABC RN to produce soundtracks for over thirty productions. As writer and producer Oonagh has been commissioned to make documentaries for ABC RN and a short film by PARRAMASALA. Oonagh studied at Sydney University and has a BA in Literature and Australian Aboriginal History from Macquarie University

In 2019 Oonagh received funding from CREATE NSW to develop "11 Stories From the River", 11 location based podcasts featuring stories and music on the history, environment and culture of Deerubbin, the upper Hawkesbury River. Oonagh has worked with Jan Barkley Jack on this project which is also supported by Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation, Hawkesbury Regional Museum, Hawkesbury Environment Network and WSU Sustainable Futures. The project seeks to bring people to the river and share stories at the places where they happened, connected by an original music and sound work inspired by the stories and moods of the river. In 2020 the project received further funding to workshop and finalise the project music.



Photo taken during interviews conducted at Hawkesbury Regional Museum, 2019.

‘FROM DISTRESS TO DELIVERANCE’ – AN AUTHOR’S JOURNEY

by Stephen Gow

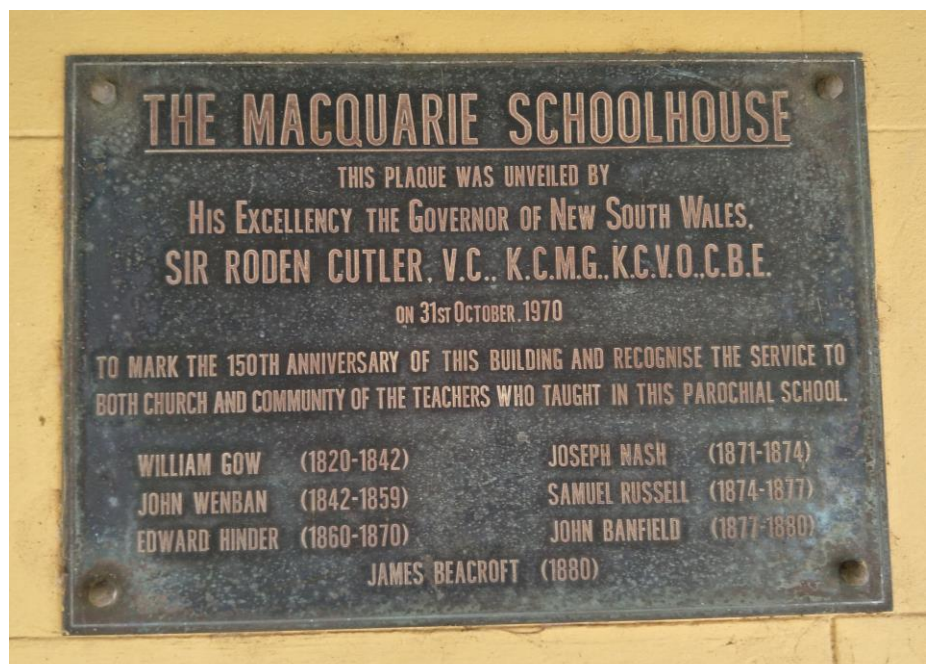
I’ve been overwhelmed by the enthusiastic responses to my book *‘From Distress to Deliverance’*, concerning the life and times of my ancestor William Gow, since it was published just over a month ago.

My interest in William, a convict facing a life term who was appointed by Governor Macquarie to join the ranks of the colony’s early schoolmasters, stretches back almost 40 years. The idea of writing a book on his life, however, was much more recent. The project had its genesis after my first meeting with a number of Gow cousins at Windsor, when St. Matthew’s Church celebrated its 200th birthday three years ago. This prompted discussions on how we might mark the 2020 bicentenary of the Macquarie Schoolhouse at Wilberforce, where William taught. I recall being ‘persuaded’, over several glasses of red wine at a family dinner shortly afterwards, that I should be the one to author a book on William Gow!

Having a deadline for publication provided a necessary focus for action. An initial pre-requisite, of course, was to find a collaborative publisher. Inscope Books of Cremorne proved an experienced partner, assisting with their technical know-how of self-publishing, access to a quality printer and helping to establish a budget.

Another early task was to develop a robust chapter outline – broadly chronological but also thematic – which would enable information to be organised appropriately to assist in the writing process. Being based in country NSW, the advent of online research tools also assisted greatly in augmenting resources already held by the extended family. I enlisted some professional help in London to ensure we had extracted all that was available from relevant UK repositories. Likewise, I am indebted to Stephen Ford (Search for Land) for negotiating the complexities of NSW land title records to uncover all of William Gow’s property dealings.

Importantly, I developed a clear mental picture of how the finished publication should look. I set up a suitable template for my writing from the outset, so my computer screen reflected what would appear in print. In particular, I wanted to integrate illustrations throughout the text to better engage the reader. A particular inspiration was Jan and Ian Jack’s beautiful 2016 book on St. Matthew’s Windsor. While we still have no likeness of William Gow himself, I was surprised how I was able to pull together a large number of quality images to help bring his story to life. These included paintings, photographs, maps, plans and other documents from repositories throughout Australia and overseas, as



Plaque commemorating Schoolmasters of Wilberforce Schoolhouse and temporary Chapel [Jan Barkley-Jack]

well as personal collections. I think *'From Distress'* has benefited greatly from the inclusion of this illustrative material and must acknowledge my daughter Amy for her encouragement that this would be so.

My intention was also to weave the historical context of 19th century Britain and Australia into the account of William's life. This required further reading and learning, which certainly enriched my knowledge and my appreciation of historical writing. As a result, I hope the book will appeal to an audience beyond William's descendants, as an account of how one man rose above the adversity of his convict past, touching particularly on the profound and compassionate influence of Macquarie.

As well as writing the book, the research process, which included two visits to the UK, has yielded experiences which will stay with me forever. Of the many discoveries along the way, one of my most astonishing 'finds' was to learn that Lachlan Macquarie's funeral cortege in London in 1824 set off from almost the exact spot where William Gow had been arrested eight years earlier!



Photo design commissioned by Stephen Gow



Stairs leading up to William Gow's schoolhouse [Jan Barkley-Jack]

The book project was also responsible, in part, for unearthing the mislaid historic parish registers for Wilberforce, which contain William's beautiful copperplate script from his time as Parish Clerk from 1826 until 1842. Finally, we now know William's home in retirement was an early brick cottage in Lennox Street Richmond, which survives to this day.

I feel fortunate indeed that this work was able to be completed before the onset of Covid-19 severely curtailed access to places and resources critical to the story. Thankfully too, the publishing process in Sydney remained unaffected, although sadly the celebrations of the Schoolhouse bicentenary at Wilberforce have had to be postponed until October 2021.

My journey of authorship has taught me a great deal. As a self-publisher one has not only to write, but to bring to bear a range of practical and technical capabilities, to take a project from a concept to a physical product which must be distributed and marketed. In this process I have had many wonderful collaborators and made many new friends, to whom I am intensely grateful.

As a first time author, seeing one's book launched into the world is a little like becoming a parent for the first time – anxious, exciting, but intensely rewarding. ■

Brickies, brickpits and brick making on the central ridge of Mulgrave Place, c.1796-1890s

By Jan Barkley-Jack

PART 2

2 Privately-owned brickpits and brick making

2.1 Brickpit: The Presbyterian Cemetery site, possibly a private brick pit, and possibly 1811-1833.

It would seem that the brickpit on what was to become the Windsor Presbyterian Cemetery site may have been a private enterprise, for no mention of it is made in the government records readily available and in the government payments from the Police Fund published in the *Sydney Gazette*. Nor have the names of the brick makers working there been absolutely identified, though two are cautiously named here.

The first proof found of one of the southernmost brickpit's existence is in 1833 on the Presbyterian Cemetery site, as shown on the 1833 map drawn by Felton Mathew. The site was an area of 2 acres 3 roods 21 perches bounded by Church, Bell and George Streets, dedicated to be a Presbyterian Cemetery for the whole of Windsor. Ian Jack interpreted the site's dedication in 1833 as an indication that the pit had finished working by that date and a productive life for the brickpit in the 1820s fits with both what is known about the early demand pattern for bricks at the southern end of the town and what is known of other brick pits operating on the Mulgrave Place ridge between the 1790s and the 1890s.¹

The numbers of buildings constructed in the town of Windsor were increasing greatly in the 1820s and 1830s, though mostly not shown on the maps of the time. One of the brick buildings already existing in the vicinity was the large brewery owned by Richard Woodbury just north of 'York Lodge' almost opposite the cluster of buildings and inn owned by Thomas Rickaby (see Figure 6). Because this was not marked on the 1827 maps, it shows the maps of the period are not reliable sources for all buildings in the area. However, sometime during the period 1811-1820s, on the section-block between the 'great square' and the Presbyterian Cemetery site, at least one private dwelling was constructed that is shown on the maps of

that year. Lot 65 on the plans of Windsor drawn in 1827 is a dwelling on the south-western corner of the new road to Richmond (present day Hawkesbury Valley Way) and George Street. It was the residence for the minister and schoolmaster at Pitt Town, the Reverend Matthew Meares.²

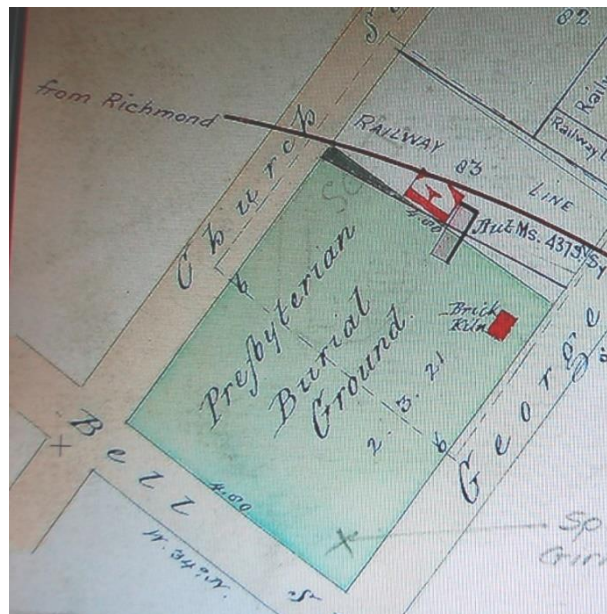


Figure 1: The original survey of the Presbyterian burial ground in Windsor by Felton Mathew in December 1833. The railway line was built in the 1860s. **Source:** Land Registry Services, Map 1851 in Ian Jack Report to Hawkesbury City Council, February 2019.

This house was owned by the Church of England until it sold in 1828 to Captain John Brabyn, a Hawkesbury magistrate. Named 'York Cottage', the dwelling faced east and had required bricks at least for its chimneys, and possibly for the residence itself. By 1827 'York Cottage' was described as a 'substantial' dwelling 'with numerous chimneys' by 1829 being 'in a dilapidated state', and requiring 'considerable repairs before it can be let to a good tenant'. This indicates it had been built some time previously, perhaps soon after 1811 when the town allotments were first distributed, but the exact date is unknown. Brabyn was still living there in 1835 and in the forties it was let, sometimes as a school.

Another large house, also brick, was built only a few hundred metres from the Presbyterian Cemetery site brickpit to its west, about 1828 by chief magistrate, William Cox. He was constructing this dwelling for himself and his family on his son Henry's land overlooking the valley stretching away towards

² The Reverend James Steele, *Early days of Windsor*, online, gutenberg.net.au/ebooks13/1302241h.html, accessed 24 July 2020; Surveyor White, 1827, NSWSA, maps SZ523, SZ524, Surveyor Thompson, 1827, map SZ 526; 'Sketch of the inundation in the neighbourhood of Windsor...2 June 1816', watercolour by an unknown artist, panorama in four panels, Mitchell Library, PX*D 264.

¹ Surveyor Felton Mathew, 1833, NSWSA, map 1851, in Report on the Presbyterian Cemetery site by R. Ian Jack for Hawkesbury City Council, February 2019.

Richmond. The house was two-storeyed with a one storey section with verandah (now the rear section of 'Fairfield'). It had five rooms downstairs (a dining-room, drawing room, master bedroom with dressing room and a study) and four bedrooms with two dressing-rooms upstairs.³ The house itself is built on the edge of the ridge with an enormous slope down to Rickabys Creek to the west, a few hundred yards from the earlier government site of John Jones' brick making enterprise. The creek could have provided a brick works site for Cox, but no brickpit is known immediately below the house. The pit and works on the Presbyterian Cemetery site providing bricks for Cox's new house is an attractive theory, for the Presbyterian Cemetery site had the advantage of being closer than any on Rickabys Creek and on the same level ground as the house, avoiding the task of carting bricks up the hill.



Figure 2: The high ground of the central Mulgrave Place ridge in the 1816 flood, looking from the old village site to the south-west beyond the future location of St Matthew's Anglican Church (shown by the blue outline pentagon), and the site of Macquarie's 'great square' (where the 'h' markers are). Immediately beyond the far side of St Matthew's location is today's Brabyn Street and then behind that on the flat is the future site of the Windsor Presbyterian Cemetery beside the continuation of the track which became George Street, Windsor. The cluster of buildings on the right is Thomas Rickaby's 1798 farm and inn whilst level with them to the left of the road is the brewery of Richard Woodbury.

Source: 'Sketch of the inundation in the neighbourhood of Windsor...2 June 1816', watercolour by an unknown artist, panorama in four panels, Mitchell Library, PX*D 264. Annotations added by Jan Barkley-Jack.

³ Anon., *Fairfield House*, pamphlet, n.d. quoted in I. Jack, 'Homes of the Cox Family in New South Wales and Tasmania: a Generational Shift', Symposium, May 2010.

Known brick makers by 1828 in Windsor were William Sconce, Charles Fell, Joseph Butler and Robert Turner. As Hawkesbury magistrate William Cox oversaw the distribution of convicts in the district he was in a position to allocate himself the most useful of the tradesmen, including William Sconce. Sconce had arrived on the *Harlow* in 1818 and was still serving his 14 year sentence with Cox in 1828 around the time Cox was building his new house at Windsor adjacent to the Presbyterian Cemetery site brickpit.⁴ Also working for William Cox from 1827 was Robert Turner. He was a member of the Town Gang at Windsor, described by Cox as 'either a brickmaker or [one who] has been accustomed to work in a brickyard' and someone of whom he stood 'very much in need' as he built 'Fairfield'.⁵ So it is just possible Sconce and Turner were brick makers at the brickpit on the Presbyterian Cemetery site.

Charles Fell in 1828, on the other hand, was an ex-convict from Middlesex who had arrived in NSW on the *Coromandel* in 1820, and was forwarded to Windsor for distribution. He had worked as a brick maker in England before his transportation. Fell was still a convict working for the government as a brick maker in 1825 but by September 1826 had received his emancipation having served his seven year sentence. Two years later, as a free man, and still a freelancing brick maker, he was living with his wife 'Judy' in Windsor. Fell had married Julia [Judy] Murphy at St Matthew's Windsor in January 1828, and so was an independent householder in Windsor at the time.⁶ In 1828 there were at least two known brickpits in Windsor actually manufacturing bricks, the Presbyterian Cemetery site and McKellar's 'The Brickfields', but there may have been others where Fell could have been employed.

Joseph Butler was older than Charles Fell and a family man, but was also an independently employed brick maker in Windsor in 1828. He had arrived as a convict on the *Perseus* in 1802 and had been freed around 1809. His partner had died prior to 1828 and only the eldest of his four children, his daughter, was then over the age of 14 years. It is therefore possible that Joseph Butler may have worked on the brickworks

⁴ NSW 1828 Census Papers (TNA Copy), HO 10/26 R to S, database online, Ancestry.

⁵ Cox to McLeay, 30 July 1827, NSWSA 907, reel 1114, letters 2563, 7213, quoted in R. Cox, *William Cox: Blue Mountains Road Builder and Pastoralist*, Rosenberg Publishing, Dural, 2012, p. 171.

⁶ NSW 1828 Census Papers (TNA Copy), HO 10/23 E to H, database online, Ancestry; search Charles Fell online, *Our Origins - the Family Histories of Craig Fullerton and Celine Amoyal*, <https://craig-fullerton.com/1297.html>, accessed 2 August 2020.

Presbyterian Cemetery site too, or otherwise, on the McKellar site of 'The Brickfields'.⁷

2.2 'The Brickfields' bounded by Brickfield Road and Mileham Street, a private brickworks site, possibly 1811-1890s.

A fifth brickmaking area may have been in use by 1811, privately operated, on a large expanse of land in what is now the block between southern Mileham Street (around its junction with the start of Brabyn Street), Fairey Road and Brickfield Road. It was known as 'The Brickfields' and appears to have been a large concern providing bricks for a wide range of buildings in the area, including in the new parts of Windsor to the east of George Street around Forbes Street and to the south. Brothers Joseph, Dougal jr (known as 'Duke') and possibly Duncan McKellar worked at these brickpits for over 70 years. Their father, Dougal McKellar sr, a soldier with connection to Macquarie's 73rd Regiment, remained in the colony working as a labourer by 1828. He had known Linton and Skinner and was said to have assisted at one of the brickworks for St Matthew's Anglican Church in 1816. It was he who arranged for his boys to learn the brick making trade from Linton and Skinner. 'Duke' McKellar, born in 1812 in Parramatta, had lived in Macquarie Street Windsor since the early 1820s, continuing to reside in the same humble cottage for 70 years, and spending only a short time away from his brickmaking in Windsor in his youth.⁸

In the early 1850s Joseph McKellar made an agreement with William Walker 'to make 100,000 bricks', presumably for constructing 'Crescentville' on The Terrace at Windsor, for which he was paid £100, and later for making extra bricks he received £14.⁹ Even as late as 1898, one of the McKellars, with a Mr Elliot had:

just burnt a kiln of bricks, containing thirteen thousand, at the old Brickfields, near the railway bridge. The bricks are a tip-top sample and equal to any turned out in this district for a long time.¹⁰

⁷ NSW 1828 Census Papers (TNA Copy), HO 10/21 A-B, database online, Ancestry.

⁸ *Windsor and Richmond Gazette*, 5 December, 26 August 1893; J.C.L. Fitzpatrick, *When We Were Boys Together*, first published in the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* in 1908, and republished by Cathy McHardy in 2004, p. 31; NSW 1828 Census Papers (TNA Copy), HO 10/26 R to S, database online, Ancestry.

⁹ 10 March 1854, William Walker's Day Book index card, Walker Collection, Windsor Library, Hawkesbury Library Services, supplied by Cathy McHardy, Kurrajong, 3 August 2020.

¹⁰ *Windsor and Richmond Gazette*, 9 April 1898; information supplied by Cathy McHardy, Kurrajong, 3 August 2020.

As time wore on and as the brickmaking on the Presbyterian Cemetery site wound down by 1833, 'The Brickfields' expanded. Other small houses and inns were built between 1811 and the early 1830s in George, Macquarie and Mileham Streets towards the southern end of the old village, such as the 'Rising Sun' Inn by 1837, at minimum needing bricks for nogging or chimneys. From 1831 John Teale's three-storey, six-horse-powered flour mill, later with chimney-stack, had dominated the skyline, and by 1837 the new brick Roman Catholic Church faced the 'great square' looking south. On the corner of Brabyn Street the 'substantial brick' Benevolent Society's Home was built in 1835-1836.¹¹ Also in the early 1830s, the brick house of Maria Cope was built in George Street just north of the 'great square' and possibly some of the earlier houses in George Street, near the Copes' farmhouse. In the 1840s, brick houses were built on the subdivision of Maria Cope's farm along Little Church Street.¹²

When land on new section-blocks between Bell Street and Argyle Streets went on sale in the 1850s, and brick housing continued along George and Macquarie Streets across several blocks, brick was commonly used, for example in section-block 'E', the bricks for 'Elm Cottage' and 'Glenroy' sitting opposite each other in George Street are known to have come from 'The Brickfields' site; and other small cottages of the period, like the small cottages in Macquarie near the Bell Street corner almost certainly used bricks for noggin or chimneys made on 'The Brickfields' site. Despite this, little is known of the actual development history of 'The Brickfields'.¹³

By the 1850s, the town of Windsor continued uninterrupted in regular, rectangular section-blocks as far south as Argyle Street and possibly beyond. The town's division by the railway line into Windsor and the suburb known as Newtown (which became South Windsor) was still over 10 years into the future. It was not until 1863 that the first sod was turned to commence the railway line, and it was officially opened on 29 November, 1864, celebrated by a banquet and ball, at which the governor Sir John Young presided. The railway impacted on the Windsor Presbyterian Cemetery by skirting close to the northern row of graves, and the old brick making site on its George Street flank was forgotten. 'The Brickfields' was not affected and reigned supreme.¹⁴

¹¹ Steele, online.

¹² *The Australian*, 5 June 1838.

¹³ Research of Jan Barkley-Jack, owner of 'Glenroy' 1998-2014.

¹⁴ Steele, online.

The Good Wives of the Hawkesbury Royalty

By Richard Gillard

Over the centuries much has been written about the men who first settled the Hawkesbury Region, the significant problems that they faced to create a homeland far from the country they were born in. Little is written about the women transported to Australia who became their wives, partners, or housekeepers. In most cases other than marriage certificates, birth certificates, death certificates, cemetery records, newspaper reports, little is known of the lives they lived. Yet, in support of their husbands and families, they made a major contribution to the creation of the homeland we know as Australia.

In this series we will bring you their stories and would welcome you to contribute stories that you might have of the early pioneer women of the Hawkesbury Region.

Mary Mullenden (Mullender, Mullendon, Mullen) is the fourth great grandmother of the author of this article. Little is known of Mary until her trial at the Chelmsford Lent Assize in 1789 where she was committed on the 27th August 1788 on suspicion of breaking and entering. The charge noted that she was late of the Parish of Laindon, Co. Essex. Mary was 23 years old at the time of her arrest.

The Ipswich Journal newspaper (courtesy of the British Newspaper Archives online) for Saturday 30 August 1788 page 2 reported on the trial, however, it only reports on one of the burglaries:

Wednesday, Edward Macquire, Mary his wife, and Mary Mullender, were committed to our goal, by Z. Button, Esq., charged on the oath of Ann Thompson, upon suspicion of breaking into her dwelling house at Laindon, and feloniously stealing a dowlas shift, a blue shirt and divers other things.

The following is a list of items that Mary along with Edward MacGuire were charged with stealing from Ann Thompson and James Thompson on the 25th August 1788 at 4.00 pm as recorded in the charges laid at the Chelmsford Assize first trail:

1 linen shift value	9d
1 yard printed cotton value	1/-
1 Damask table cloth value	2/-
1 silk and stuff gown value	5/-
1 stuff skirt value	4/-
1 yard ribband value	1d
1 cotton shawl value	1/-
3/4lb lump sugar value	4d
1 cotton handkerchief value	1/-
1 yard printed cotton value	2/-
1 linen cap value	3d
1 cotton bedgown value	1/-
3 linen check aprons value	3/-
1 yard printed cotton value	1/-
1 child's linen cap value	1/-
1 child's linen apron value	1d
1 piece silk ribband value	1d
1 linen handkerchief value	1/-
1 linen half handkerchief value	6d
1 lawn half handkerchief value	3d
1 linen skirt value	5/-

Total value of £1.9s. 5d.

At the second trial, Edward MacGuire and Mary were charged with at 4.00 in the afternoon of the 23 August 1788 with force and arms did break and enter into the dwelling place of James Brand. They are charged with stealing the following goods: -

1 stuff quilted petticoat value	10/-
2 linen window curtains value	6d
6 pieces printed cotton value	1/-
1 woollen cloak value	4/-
1 linen sheet value	2/-
1 linen towel value	3d
2 1/2 yards baize value	2/-
1 woman's silk hat value	1/-
1 woman's silk bonnet value	1/-
1 silk handkerchief value	2/-
1 linen check apron value	1/-
2 linen caps value	6d
3 printed linen cuffs value	2d
1 pr women's linen gloves value	3d
1 camblet stuff gown value	5/-
1 linen shift value	5/-
1 pair cotton stockings value	2/-
1 lawn half handkerchief value	1/-
1 linen handkerchief value	6d

Total value of £1 19s. 2d.

Edward MacGuire was found guilty, Mary was found not guilty of breaking and entering, but guilty of stealing and was sentenced to 7 years transportation. It is probable that Mary was interred in the new Chelmsford goal which was completed in 1777 until her transfer to Australia.

Governor Philip wrote to the British Government asking for more supplies and also requesting as a matter of urgency the provision of more women for the colony. Evan Newman who was responsible for the project issued orders for the rounding up of approximately 225 female thieves, prostitutes, con artists from prisons in London and the surrounding countryside to be shipped off to Sydney.

Mary was one of the prisoners selected to go to Sydney. The Ipswich Journal Saturday 14th March 1789 page 3 (courtesy British Newspaper Archive) reported as follows:

The following are to be transported for 7 years, viz...Edward Macquire, Mary Mullender for housebreaking.



Lady Juliana by Robert Dodd 1783 Trustees of British Museum

The "*Lady Julianna*" was chartered by William Richards who in turn was contracted by the British Government to carry the female convicts to Australia as part of the Second Fleet.

On the 28th February 1789, the "*Lady Juliana*" was, sent to Gallions Reach where in March 1789 the first 108 women prisoners from Newgate Prison were embarked. More prisoners from Newgate prison were embarked later on and, on the 7th May 1789, the "*Lady Juliana*" proceeded to Spithead near Portsmouth where about 90 women from country goals were also transferred to the "*Lady Juliana*". Mary was transferred to London on 5th April 1789 from the county goal to join the "*Lady Juliana*". Mary was recorded as being 23 years old at that point in time.

The "*Lady Juliana*" was in such poor state after the voyage that she was unable to make her way up the harbour unaided and had to be assisted into Sydney Cove arriving there on the 3rd June 1790.

The "*Lady Juliana*" was received by an excited population who were near starvation. Many of the convicts who arrived on the First Fleet were unable to work because of old age or infirmity.

As the colony was only three years old when Mary arrived, record keeping was very scant or has been lost, so it is difficult to piece together Mary's early experiences in the colony. Mary was not among the 135 female prisoners from the *Lady Juliana* who, a few days after arrival were placed about the ship *Surprize* and sent to Norfolk Island It

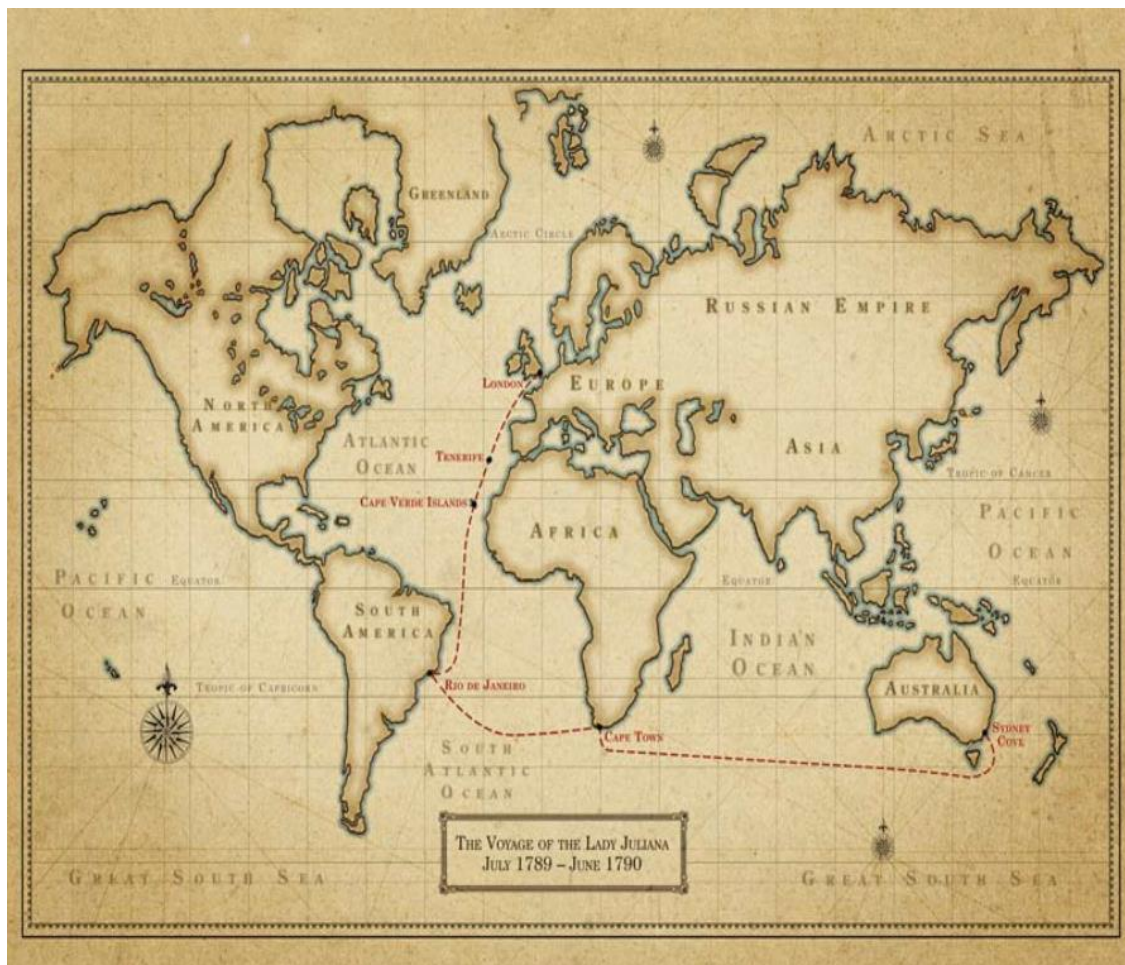
is most likely that she was assigned as a servant.

David Densham, her future husband, arrived in the colony fourteen months later aboard the "*Atlantic*". David had been sentenced to seven years transportation for stealing carpenters' tools valued at around 20 shillings. Again, it is not known who David was assigned to in the first few years of his life in the colony. It is most likely it would be in close proximity to where Mary was living for within 3 years Mary and David were to marry.

Mary was married to David Dunstan on the

17 August 1794 by the reverend Richard Johnson at St Phillips church, church hill. The witnesses to the marriage were Eleanor McDonald and John Hunter. Eleanor was a convict who arrived on the "*Lady Juliana*" with Mary. Mary was unable to write and signed her marriage certificate with an 'X'.

Elenor (should have been spelt Eleanor) McDonald was one of the witnesses to the marriage and travelled out to Australia with Mary on the "*Lady Juliana*". They must have become friends on the voyage and remained friends on arrival. Eleanor was convicted of stealing at Middlesex Goal Delivery and was sentenced to seven years transportation. It is apparent that John Hunter, David's best man, travelled to Australia aboard the *Atlantic* with David, John having been sentenced to seven years transportation.



The Second Fleet sailed from Plymouth on the 29th July 1789. On board the "*Lady Juliana*" were 226 female convicts from a variety of backgrounds. A few were elderly and infirm, a number were educated, some completely illiterate and the youngest Mary Wade was only eleven years old.

The voyage to Australia was long and very slow. Steward Nicol reported that most, if not all men aboard selected a mistress from among the convicts for the duration of the voyage. Women who became 'wives' of crew members aboard the ship could get access to better provisions and sleeping arrangements. Much has been written about the voyage of the *Lady Juliana* and it is not intended to elaborate on the voyage any further. There is no documentation to tell if Mary shared the trip with any of the sailors.

New South Wales

Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1995

Church of England

MARRIAGES

Number	182 Vol: 4
Grooms Details	
Name	David DENSHAM
Of	Not Stated
Marital Status	Not Stated
Brides Details	
Bride	Mary MULLENDER, Her X Mark
Of	Not Stated
Marital Status	Not Stated
When married	17 August 1794
Where married	St Phillip, Sydney
By	Banns
Consent	Not Stated
Minister	Richard Johnson
Witnesses	John Hunter Eleanor McDonald, Her X Mark



Before accepting copies, sight unaltered original. The original has a coloured background.
 I hereby certify that this is a true copy of particulars recorded in a Register in the State of New South Wales, in the Commonwealth of Australia.
 Sydney 12 June 2015

[Signature]
 Registrar

David was to later change his name from Densham to Dunstan.

In 1804 David was granted 90 acres at Mulgrave Place where he and Mary and their three boys moved to. As a carpenter David was able to build his own house. David received further land grants, 60 acres at Kurrajong in 1825, and 100 acres at Liberty Plains in 1831. Mary gave birth to the following children:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| David James Dunstan | Born 1795 Wilberforce |
| Richard William Dunstan | Born 1797 Wilberforce |
| Stephen Dunstan | Born 1799 Wilberforce |
| James Dunstan | Born 1805 Wilberforce |
| Maria Dunstan | Born 1807 Richmond |
| John Dunstan | Born 1802 Parramatta |

Mary and David were blessed with over 16 grandchildren. All of the descendants of Mary and David were to make a significant contribution to the Hawkesbury Region.

It is assumed that Mary's time was spent on raising the children, caring for the household, working on the farm, and attending church. Her contribution to society, is unsung, unnoticed, and undocumented by society, however, through her descendant's major contributions have been made to the making of the Australian Society it is today.



Mary passed away on the 27th March 1836 and was buried two days later on the 29th March 1836. Mary was buried in the St. Johns Wilberforce cemetery. ■

Tinkling the ivories

Compiled by Michelle Nichols



From a Palings advertisement from the Windsor & Richmond Gazette 26 November 1892 p. 11

The first piano arriving in Australia came on board the flagship Sirius as part of the First Fleet in 1788. It was conveyed to the colonies by surgeon George Bouchier Worgan (1757–1838). The piano was made in 1786, just prior to the First Fleet setting out and was an English square piano. It was small and its legs folded. Apparently, the piano was played on the deck on the voyage out.

Worgan joined the navy as a young man and in 1780 qualified as naval surgeon. His love of music came from his parents, in particular his father, John Worgan, a doctor of music. Worgan was part of a number of expeditions and journeyed to the Hawkesbury River and Broken Bay. In 1791 Worgan returned home to England and left his piano with Mrs Elizabeth Macarthur, wife of the controversial John Macarthur. Elizabeth kept the piano for almost two decades. Worgan died in 1838.

Entrepreneur Simeon Lord listed various items that were to be sold at auction at his warehouse in Sydney in 1803. All items were listed as being manufactured in Britain and in good condition including “a Piano Forte, which will be sold for sixty Guineas” according to the Sydney Gazette newspaper dated 17 July 1803 p. 1. Later that year, a J. G. Crochet advertised in the Sydney Gazette newspaper dated 27 November p. 2 offering his services as a surgeon as well as “lessons on the organ or forte-piano at 4 Shillings each.”

Another well-known personality brought a piano to the colonies. Elizabeth, wife of Governor Lachlan Macquarie brought a Broadwood piano when they arrived in 1809. The Broadwood was a three pedal grand piano. A Broadwood pianoforte, was advertised for sale in Sydney in 1816. It was apparently a “superior toned fashionable” piano, “particularly suited for a hot climate!!”

The First Fleet piano was not heard of until antique dealer, William Bradshaw, tracked it down in Windsor in the mid-1960s. It was being stored in the laundry of a house and Bradshaw purchased it for the price of a new washing machine. The historic piano was then purchased by collector Stewart Symonds. Stewart collected historic pianos for over 50 years and recently donated his

collection of historic pianos, including the First Fleet instrument, to the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts. There are a number of articles online about this historic piano.

Pianos were an important musical instrument in Australia. Many immigrants brought their pianos from far-flung countries to their new homes in the cities, towns and outback localities in Australia. It was quite the status symbol to own a piano. Transported by horse and cart, bullock and even camels to all corners of the country. Pianos were also important pieces of furniture in Australian homes.

The United Loyal Hawkesbury Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (Masonic Lodge) held a concert in aid of their Widow and Orphans Fund in December 1845. One of the performances was a violin solo from Mr Gibbs, accompanied by Mrs Gibbs on the piano.

There are many references to concerts in the Hawkesbury reported in newspapers and good piano players were in high demand. Miss Ridge *"presided at the piano"* for an amateur concert for the Hawkesbury Benevolent Society in 1875. The concert *"was followed by a dance, which was agreeably, kept up till the stars were fading at the advance of morning light."*

At a special school concert, at the Windsor Public School in 1871, the young female students, *"Misses Gerty, Bushell, Bonany, Holmes, and Ambrose charmed the audience with several tunes on a piano kindly lent for the occasion by Miss Black."*

From about the 1860s to the First World War was the *"golden era"* with many homes housing a piano from custom-made expensive bespoke pianos, to cheaper mass-produced models. The piano was a popular form of entertainment as well. At family get-togethers to social events at school of arts or theatres, the piano was popular. By 1888, it was estimated approximately 700,000 pianos had been imported into Australia.

Originally expensive to purchase, technical improvements transformed them, making them more affordable. Many pianos were imported however the first piano factory was established in Sydney in 1893 by Octavius Charles Beale 1850–1930. His second factory in Annandale became *"the largest piano factory in the southern hemisphere and the British Empire in the early 1900s."* The company operated until the 1960s.



Interior view of Mr & Mrs Bruce's piano at Gundagai
By Charles Gabriel 1857-1927, Gundagai photograph collection, courtesy
National Library of Australia

PIANO & ORGAN TUNING

WE beg to advise that we are now paying our regular half yearly visit to Windsor and Richmond districts. Orders c/o "Gazette" Office will receive our usual careful attention.

A BLACKBURN AND SON,
252 Church-street. Parramatta.

Every six months a representative from Parramatta's Blackburn & Sons visited Windsor and Richmond for piano and organ tuning from the 1890s until the 1940s.

Dutch migrant William Henry Paling 1825-1895 arrived in Sydney in 1853. He quickly established a music business in Sydney, selling pianos and violins and sheet music. Paling, the son of a piano manufacturer, also taught the violin and piano. The business expanded and was incorporated in 1883 and became one of the most popular and iconic music stores in Australia until it closed in the 1980s.

W. H. PALING & Co.,
(Established 1858). LIMITED. (Incorporated 1888).

Palings advertisement, Windsor & Richmond Gazette 26 November 1892 p. 11

Over the years, the Hawkesbury was home to many fine pianists and music teachers. The local newspapers on Trove <https://trove.nla.gov.au/> are filled with instances of musical events and advertisements relating to the sale or servicing of pianos in the local area.

Today pianos do not often feature in our homes but are still appreciated in our music and concerts. Currently there are about thirty brands of pianos available in Australia ranging from electronic, small keyboards to exotic Grand Pianos.

Note: The National Library of Australia has a fantastic collection of music, see their website at <https://www.nla.gov.au/what-we-collect/music> including Australian published/unpublished sheet music covering a range of musical styles, as well as memorabilia, photographs and archival sound recordings.

If you are interested, check out a clip of piano making in Australia in the 1920s from Australian Screen <https://aso.gov.au/titles/documentaries/piano->

Sources:

First Fleet piano part of priceless collection of historic instruments donated to a Perth university from ABC News <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-05-26/australias-first-piano-unveiled-at-wa-university/7449222>

John Copley, 'Worgan, George Bouchier (1757–1838)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/worgan-george-bouchier-2816/text4033> 1967

Australia's first piano from Colonial Dance www.colonialdance.com.au/piano-of-the-first-fleet-29.html

Australia's first piano revealed from SBS

<http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2016/05/27/australias-first-piano-revealed>

Beale piano https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beale_Piano

The concert. (1845, December 25) *Hawkesbury Courier* p. 2. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article6637900>

Windsor (1875, December 25). The Sydney Mail & NSW Advertiser p. 810. Retrieved from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article162489271>

Reminiscences...a nostalgic window into the past

Cathy McHardy - October 2020

Springing from society's obsession with nostalgia in the late 19th century and the perception that life was just not as 'good' as in the 'good old days', came the emergence of the popular genre, *Reminiscences*. A generation of writers put pen to paper to record their memories for the edification and entertainment of readers across the country.

It was common to attempt the concealment of identities with the use of mysterious nom-de-plumes such as 'Paul Twyford', 'Cooyal' (George Charles Johnson) and Cooramill' (Sam Boughton) or feigned disguise such as 'Yeldap' (James Padley).

The recollections of those born early in the 19th century were generously peppered with tales of old hands and old ways and often lamented the momentous changes which had taken place to daily life over the course of that century. Samuel Boughton, however, displayed particular perception and understanding of humanity when he commented: "I think there is a lot of human nature in it after all, when speaking of the good old times. In this, our present happy state, we are apt to forget our worries of the past, and think only of what was good in it."

J C L Fitzpatrick on the other hand commented that some in the community believed that "the days which are dead and gone should be regarded as days to be forgotten – that the Golden Age is ahead of, and not behind, us." He felt that there was merit in remembering and reflecting on the past rather than forgetting and moving on, and his writing supported his belief.

Contributions to the press of this kind were often published as regular instalments and were eagerly awaited by readers. This would often spur other commentators into action, sending in a wordy volley of 'corrections' for the following edition.

There was a proliferation of *Reminiscences* appearing in Hawkesbury newspapers from the early 1880s to the middle of the 20th century and the newspaper proprietors of the time were only too happy to publish contributions large and small from local correspondents.

From our vantage point in the early 21st century it may be easy to dismiss the ramblings of those aged chroniclers but the readers of today may grasp some understanding of everyday life in what may seem to us another place, another time. Moreover, the detail in which the writers focus on the machinations of small town life, is both informative and absorbing to family and local historians alike.

Over time, the identities of correspondents were revealed but for some published reminiscences, the

identities of the authors will forever remain unknown. *River reminiscences* published in the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* in November 1936 was attributed to

T M D

(<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/86049647>)

or 'by an old resident', which appeared on a piece entitled *Riverstone – earlier reminiscences* in December 1941

(<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/86066718>).

Other obscure bylines which appeared in the local press included 'Bill Grose' and 'Cubbygalo'.

By no means an exhaustive list, may I recommend to you the work of the Hawkesbury chroniclers listed below for a lively and engaging read.

Flora Ann Timms

Flora Timms of Kurrajong was one of the few women who made regular contributions to the local press. She was born Flora McLean in the Southern Highlands of NSW and married J C Timms in Berry. Her husband went on to serve as the Shire President of Colo Shire for many years from 1924.

Timms was known for her writing abilities and her work first appeared in the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* in December 1925 on the topic of the Rev Robert Cartwright
(<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/85899861>).

Her subjects were many and varied from the history of the Jewish peoples in the Old Testament times which ran to thirty-one instalments to boat builder John Grono and Captain Thomas Christie of Lower Portland.

Reminiscences of the celebrations on the opening of the Windsor Bridge may be of particular interest at this time and was published in the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* on the 5 May 1939
(<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/85811033>)

A final article by this prolific writer appeared in October 1940. Flora Timms died at her home 'Druwalla', Kurrajong, on 14 September, 1945 at the age of 77 years. Her obituary published on 26 September that year details her many talents and achievements
(<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/86026726>).

George Charles Johnson – 'Paul Twyford', 'Cooyal', 'G C J' and others

Johnson was born in England in 1839. A man with an adventurous spirit, the lure of gold brought him to the NSW goldfields in about 1858. He prospected in the Lambing Flat, Gulgong and Sofala fields and published the newspaper the *Illustrated Sofala Times* in 1859. He was also editor of the *Hawkesbury Chronicle*, a newspaper which commenced in 1879 and also wrote numerous articles on the history of Mudgee and Gulgong.

Writing under many pseudonyms including 'Paul Twyford', 'Cooyal' or simply 'G C J', Johnson was a prolific and entertaining writer contributing to many country newspapers such as the *Molong Argus*. His subjects were many and varied and included political comment, satire as well as local history.

His first article under the name Paul Twyford appeared in the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* in March 1889. Titled *An evening among the land nationalizers*, the piece reported on a public meeting which was held on the subject of national versus private ownership of land. Amusingly he mentions George Charles Johnson (aka himself) as being one of the speakers!

Following Sam Boughton's epic series *Reminiscences of Richmond: from the forties down* written under the name of Cooramill, Johnson contributed eleven instalments of corrections and comments which were published in the *Hawkesbury Herald* commencing on 23 September 1904 under the byline, Cooyal.

After a long lifetime spent writing and commenting, Johnson died in Cremorne aged 85 years in July 1924.

J C L Fitzpatrick – 'J C L'

John Charles Lucas Fitzpatrick was a lively and amusing author who composed verse, wrote about his travels overseas, and recorded for posterity his memories of the life and times of the people he knew in the Hawkesbury and Molong regions. He had a passion for overseas travel and wrote about his adventures in Asia, the Dutch East Indies (Indonesia), Singapore, New Caledonia and the Pacific Islands.



J C L Fitzpatrick (Collection of the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW, ML refP1F: FMI/4524)

Most of his publications written between 1895 and 1923 may be found in the State Library of New South Wales, the National Library of Australia or Hawkesbury Library, Windsor. In 2004, I republished his work *When we were boys together* with an index, short biography and bibliography of his work.

Fitzpatrick was born in the town of Moama on the Murray River, in south-western New South Wales, in February 1862, the eldest child of police sub-inspector John James Fitzpatrick and Elizabeth Lucas.

J C L was educated at one of the several denominational schools which had been established in Windsor at this time, continuing his education by serving an apprenticeship with the Windsor newspaper *The Australian* from the age of fourteen.

He had attained the position of compositor on the Melbourne newspaper *Punch* by the age of eighteen and gained valuable experience working on many New South Wales country newspapers including Goulburn, Gunnedah, Narrabri and Walgett.

During his early working years Fitzpatrick developed the ambition to establish and manage his own newspaper. The *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* commenced publication in 1888 with the first issue consisting of eight pages going on sale on Saturday 21 July 1888 at a price of threepence.

Fitzpatrick intended the paper to be a voice for the local community reporting on the events and current issues of the district. The newspaper was subsequently sold to Frank Campbell in 1899 and is still in publication as the *Hawkesbury Gazette*.

Serialised publication of *When we were boys together* commenced in the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* in July 1908. He also published several volumes of poetry under the title *Various Verses* between 1895 and 1907 and several other books of reminiscences including *The good old days* (1900), *The good old days of Molong* (1913) and *Those were the days* (1923).

John Thomas Christie – 'Chris'

John Thomas Christie, the son of Thomas and Mary Christie, was born in 1883 on his family's property, 'Orange Grove' at Lower Portland.

Writing under the name of 'Chris', he contributed *A bit of river history: reminiscences of the Hawkesbury River & pioneers*, a series of thirty-three chapters which appeared in the *Hawkesbury Herald* from 1905. This volume is held by Hawkesbury Library. *Fifty years ago, the Hawkesbury, Glimpses of bygone days* and *Fifty years after some river reminiscences* was published in the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* in 1944 in several instalments.

He continued to write sporadically for the *Gazette* for many years until January 1952 (<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/85673753>) when he was asked to speak about his memories of the centenary of Ebenezer Church which he had attended in 1902. John Christie died in April 1957 aged 74 years. (<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/256361406>)

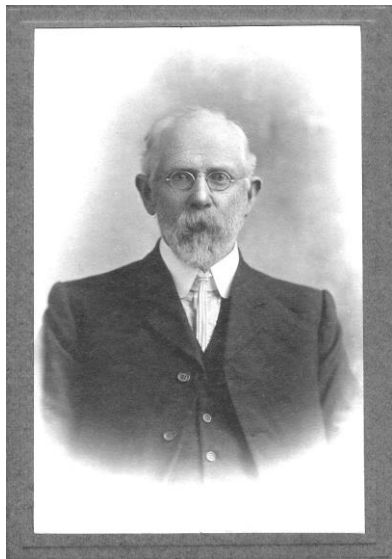
Sam Boughton – 'Cooramill'

Sam Boughton, writer, builder and stalwart member of the local community was born in Richmond in April 1841 and died at his home 'Karoola' on Grose Vale Road, North Richmond on 22 September 1910. Writing under the non de plume of 'Cooramill', Boughton completed over one hundred instalments of his 'Reminiscences of Richmond' published in *The Hawkesbury Herald* from March 1903 until October 1905.

Readers are encouraged to imagine they are walking methodically along the streets of Richmond as Boughton writes in intimate detail about the town,

when each building was constructed, who lived there and sometimes subsequent owners and occupiers. In addition, he traverses the countryside from Richmond to Yarramundi, to Kurrajong, Comleroy and beyond mentioning the buildings and local families as he goes.

In contrast to some of the other writers, Boughton judged that life in the past was not all happy and does not shy away from recounting practices, commonplace in their day, which we would find repugnant today, such as the abhorrent treatment of apprentices (perhaps from Boughton's own experiences) by both masters and peers and the violent, but popular sport of cockfighting.



Sam Boughton who wrote under the nom-de-plume 'Cooramill' (Collection of Dal Dutch)

The living conditions of Aboriginal people and their treatment by white settlers is graphically described and makes disturbing reading. Boughton also has strong opinions on contemporary issues such as the influence of the unions and the policies of the Labor Party on Australian society.

Boughton, though sometimes prone to ramble was often pragmatic in his reporting of the changes going on around him. On the subject of transport for example, he commented on the various types of horse-drawn vehicles that had been the common mode of transport over his lifetime. Foreseeing the changes of the future he stated:—

The sulky is the more popular trap at the present time. It is used for all cases. The butcher delivers his meat from it, the grocer his tea and sugar, and the fruitgrower takes his fruit to market in it. It was tried to run it off with the village-cart, but it would not go. It is too useful. The only thing that will replace the sulky is the motorcar—that is until we get an aerial machine. That is coming...

In 2010, I republished the complete set of Boughton's articles as they appeared in the *Hawkesbury Herald* complete with comments and corrections by other correspondents such as Farlow and Johnson.

Robert Farlow – 'R F'

Robert William Farlow was born and raised in the Yarramundi district and exhibited a detailed knowledge of the area's local history. His contribution were written under the initials 'R F'.

Farlow was also spurred into action after reading Cooramill's *Reminiscences*... Four of his contributions to the debate were published in January 1904 in the *Hawkesbury Herald's* rival, the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* and was followed by further commentary in the *Hawkesbury Herald*.

Farlow exhibits a detailed knowledge of the mills, families and buildings of Yarramundi. For example: the old barn built by the Howell family was not demolished to make room for the Presbyterian Church as 'Cooramill' had stated. He also contributes a lively story relating one of the popular schoolboy capers which involved tormenting the girls with Bathurst burrs providing the reader with much amusement.

During 1909-10 Farlow submitted a series of articles to the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* relating the memories of Alfred Smith of Richmond.

This series known as *Ups and downs of an old Richmondite* was republished in book form by Nepean Family History Society in 1991.

Farlow died in June 1942 aged 71 years (<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/86028275>)

Alfred Smith was born 1831 in Richmond, the son of John Smith and Adelaide de la Thoreza. Smith was raised by Mr and Mrs George James and spent his whole life in Richmond living through many changes including the coming of the railway to the Hawkesbury. His memories as recounted to Farlow relate a detailed knowledge of the inhabitants of Richmond also including other areas such as Windsor and Kurrajong.

Over his lifetime he explored the country extensively often with his half-brother Tom Masters including expeditions to Melbourne, Bourke and Southern Queensland. Smith died in December 1917 and was buried in Richmond beside his wife Anne Kinsella.

William Freame

During his lifetime of sixty-six years, William Freame contributed over one thousand articles, poems and letters to the editor which were published in such diverse publications such as the *Nepean Times*, *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers' Advocate*, *Hawkesbury Herald*, *Windsor and Richmond Gazette*, *Marrickville Express*, *Catholic Press*, *Evening News (Sydney)*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Freeman's Journal*,



William Freame in 1910 (Collection of Cumberland Council Library Service, HP023, Historic Photos Collection)

The Land and the Wingham Chronicle.

Freame had particular interest in the Hawkesbury and 'Macquarie's Five Towns'. His contributions to the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* commenced in September 1901 with an article on St Matthew's Church of England, Windsor. He also supplied articles on many other topics including the Reverend Samuel Marsden, the poet Charles Harpur and Margaret Catchpole.

Freame's series entitled *Some old river history* commenced publication in the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* in August 1917

(<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/85882210>) and concluded with instalment number 17 in February 1918.

A prolific and indefatigable writer, Freame was still contributing to the local press until May 1933 when illness and hospitalisation prevented him from doing so. Freame died on the 19 September 1933 and was buried in St John's Cemetery, Parramatta.

James Padley – Yeldap

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/113473698>
James Padley was born in Castlemaine, Victoria and came to live in the Hawkesbury in the early 1890s. Under the rather obvious pseudonym of Yeldap, James Padley commenced writing for the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* in July 1893 with a series of articles called *The Good Old Days*. The first in the ten-part series took the form of an interview with an (fictitious?) old resident who knew all about the life and times of Governor Lachlan Macquarie.

A prolific writer, his focus was often on colonial Hawkesbury and he contributed articles to the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* until March 1904. By this time he had relocated to Lithgow and had opened a business there. He became an active and valued member of the Lithgow community and was very much missed when he died in October 1918 aged 57 years.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/113473698>

William Walker

William Walker was born in Glasgow in 1828, the eldest son of George and Elizabeth Walker. The Walker family arrived in NSW aboard the Portland in 1837. His father was one of fifteen schoolmasters recruited by Rev. John Dunmore Lang to conduct Presbyterian schools in the colony.

Walker was a prolific writer and a meticulous record keeper. During his lifetime he produced many articles, books and pamphlets. He married three times and was survived by eleven children when he died in 1908. He was very active in the political and social life of the district. He was MLA for Windsor from 1860 to 1869, MLC from 1887 until his death and an alderman on the Borough Council of Windsor from 1871 to 1880 also holding the office of mayor in that year.

The text of a speech delivered by Walker at the School of Arts, Windsor on 22 August 1890 was published that year as *Reminiscences (personal, social and political) of a fifty years' residence at Windsor, on the Hawkesbury*. A volume of *Poems: Written in youth* as well as his *Reminiscences* are held by Hawkesbury Library. A compilation of his pamphlets entitled *Miscellanies* was published in 1887 and is held by the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW.

Rev James Steele

James Steele was the minister of the Presbyterian Church, Windsor having previously been incumbent in Picton, Junee and Lindfield. During his time in Windsor Parish, he took an avid interest in the history of the town and Hawkesbury district.

While preparing his manuscript for publication Rev Steele agreed to supply the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* with some articles from his forthcoming history *Early Days of Windsor*. Commencing in August 1914, the series ran until April 1916 (<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/85859017>).

James Steele died in Blackheath in June 1918. (<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/15783689>).

A digital copy of this work is available through Project Gutenberg
<http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks13/1302241h.html>

Thank you...Peta Sharpley

WINDSOR AND RICHMOND GAZETTE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1925.

Spring is Here

BEFORE REPLENISHING YOUR WARDROBE, A VISIT TO

Woodhill & Co., Ltd.

will be time well spent, having opened their FIRST CONSIGNMENT OF SUMMER GOODS, including a large assortment of DRESS LENGTHS. (No two lengths alike).

And a large and varied range of all those charming fabrics, suitable for summer wear.

BOTH PLEASING TO THE EYE AND POCKET.

Millinery

ALL THE NEW STYLES AND CREATIONS WITHIN REACH OF ALL YOUR INSPECTION INVITED.

Woodhill & Co., Ltd.

'Phone Windsor 9. WHERE VALUE REIGNS SUPREME.

Windsor and Richmond Gazette,
Friday 25 September 1925 (Trove)

QUIZ 4

Do you know where these bridges and river crossings are/were to be found in Hawkesbury?

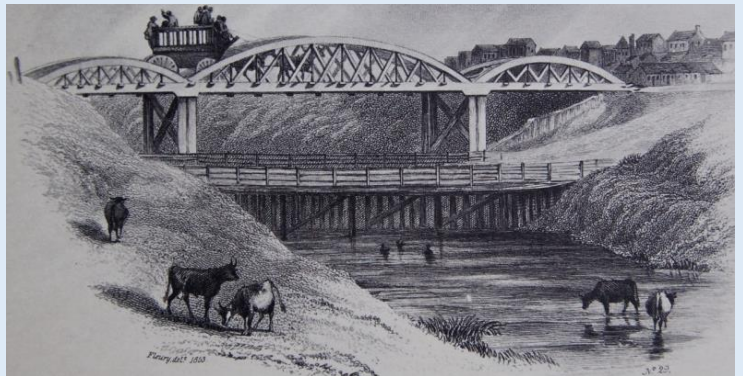
Jan Barkley-Jack

[All photos and sketches used are by Jan Barkley-Jack except where indicated].

1. Perhaps the pub will help [M. Nichols, *Pictorial History Hawkesbury*]



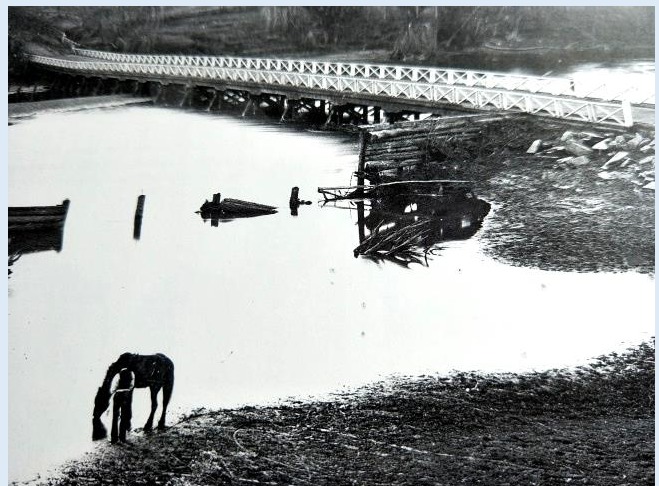
2. The old bridge and the 1853 new bridge, painted by Frederic Terry, visiting Hawkesbury in 1853.



3. A road bridge possibly with a gloss



4. Strong old tresses photographed in 1879 and still onsite today [right hand photo from M. Nichols, *Pictorial History Hawkesbury*]



5. Second Hawkesbury River Ferry crossing



6. Will this one last 146 years plus?



7. Both ferry and bridge are operational today on what River?



8. Watch out! talk of duplicating this crossing poses new heritage threats.



9. This bridge opened on 20 August 1874.



10. Floods stopped road traffic but not what goes over this bridge



11. There are two bridges with the same name over this creek [left hand picture M. Nichols, *Pictorial History Hawkesbury*]



12. To make this trickier, see only the lead down to the bridge



13. Here pedestrians get special treatment



14. The only bridge associated with a woman in the Hawkesbury



15. Its replacement is nicknamed the bridge to nowhere, but this was in the 1960s [M. Nichols, *Pictorial History Hawkesbury*]



16. A good slope and a sharp bend lead onto this bridge



17. Taken from the Brickfields paddock



18. The namesake of this bridge arrived in NSW in 1812 as a convict having been charged with stealing four sheep. He married Sarah Rose in November 1813 and the couple grew their wheat for a special reason.



19. This waterway has plenty of bricks but its bridge has no name. What road is it on?



20. The bridge over this creek has the same name as the waterway.



Answers: 1. St Albans' bridge; 2. The first South Creek bridges on the present site; 3. Glossodia; 4. Previous bridge at North Richmond; 5. Hawkesbury River at Windsor; 6. New Windsor bridge opened 2020; 7. The Colo River; 8. Present North Richmond Bridge; 9. The first Windsor Bridge; 10. Railway Viaduct South Windsor; 11. Both are over Rickabys Creek; 12. Yarramundi Bridge; 13. Redbank Creek Bridges North Richmond; 14. Cooley's Creek Bridge named after Sarah Cooley, the ex-convict wife of the Hawkesbury Commandant, Neil Mackellar; 15. South Creek Bridge immediately prior to the present one in the 1960s; 16. Cornwallis Bridge; 17. Jim Anderson Bridge, part of Windsor Flood Evacuation Route; 18. Buttsworth's Bridge Wilberforce; 19. Brickfield Road South Windsor; 20. Webbs Creek.

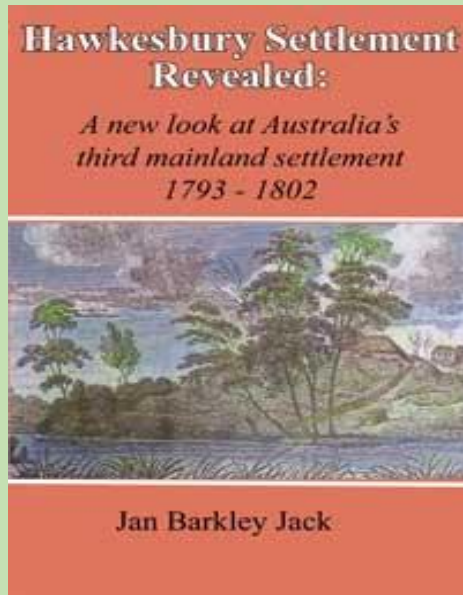
Book Store Update

By Heather Gillard

The Hawkesbury Historical Society operate a bookstore at the Hawkesbury Regional Museum, Baker Street, Windsor. Profit from the sale of books help fund the Society and the Hawkesbury Regional Museum. Currently the Book Shop has over 160 titles mainly focused on history of the Hawkesbury Region and early Colonial History. A new section on Aboriginal History has been established along with a section on Children's history books about the early settlement of Australia.

All books are now available to be purchased on-line via the Hawkesbury Historical Society's web site (www.hawkesburyhistoricalsociety.org). The web site has details of every available book and the purchase price. Postage costs are added to the cost of the book. Credit cards can be used to make a purchase and the book will be posted to you. If you do not have access to a computer, you can order a book by contacting the Hawkesbury Regional Museum during their office hours. Postage costs are added to the price of the book and you can pay by credit card.

Special Offer

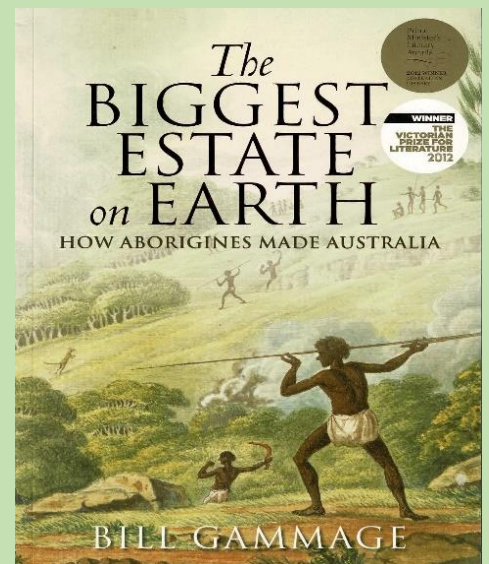


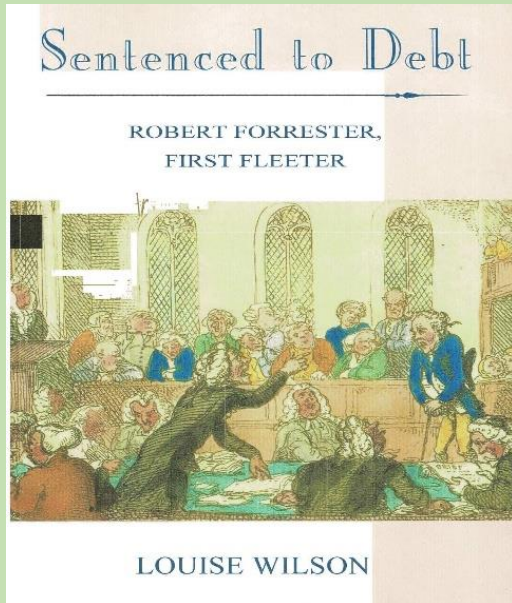
The Society is pleased to announce a special price of **\$25** for Jan Barkley-Jack's book, *Hawkesbury Settlement Revealed*. This is a saving of \$10 over the normal retail price.

New Books - A number of new books have been added to the bookstore:

With details of land management strategies from around Australia, *The Biggest Estate on Earth* rewrites the history of this continent, with huge implications for us today. Once Aboriginal people were no longer able to tend their country, it became overgrown and vulnerable to the hugely damaging bushfires we now experience. And what we think of as virgin bush in a national park is nothing of the kind.

\$40



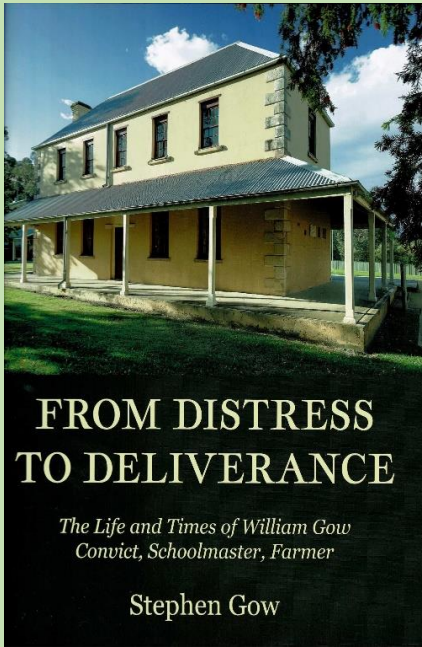


In 1791 selected convicts of good character were allowed to become 'new Australians'. One was Robert Forrester. He'd escaped his death sentence but his land grant in the Hawkesbury's 'valley of floods' quickly sentenced him to debt. Interactions with the 'First Australians', the custodians of his land for 60,000 years, earned him and his partner Isabella Ramsay a permanent place in Australian history.

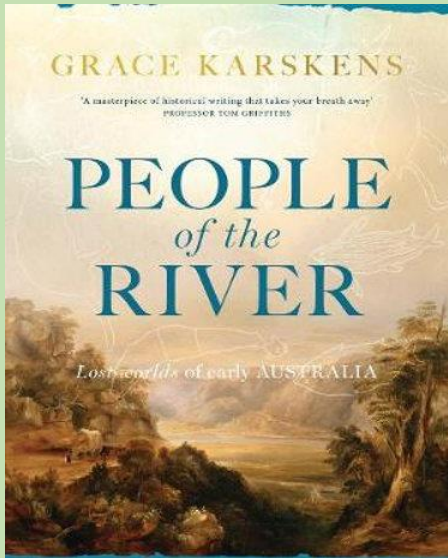
\$55

How did a young man convicted of burglary and sentenced to hang at the Old Bailey in 1816 come to be appointed as one of the first schoolmasters in New South Wales a little over two years later? This is the remarkable story of William Gow who arrived at Sydney Cove on the convict ship *Morley* in April 1817.

\$70



Coming soon to the Bookshop



Dyarubbin, the Hawkesbury-Nepean River, is where the two early Australia's - ancient and modern - first collided. *People of the River* journeys into the lost worlds of the Aboriginal people and the settlers of Dyarubbin, both complex worlds with ancient roots.

\$40